

bad—embodies the entrepreneurial spirit that makes America so great.

While the success of their carpet business speaks volumes about Ruth and Harland, their enduring legacy rests in their beautiful family. Harland and Ruth are the proud parents of four—Kathy, Mike, Jean, and Todd—the grandparents of 14—Kelly Paxton, Rachel Jacob, Jake Zambrano, Amanda Hamblin, Elissa Zambrano, Joey Pepper, Josh Zambrano, Megan Lawson, Greg Jacob, Matt Pepper, David Pepper, Manon Jacob, Luke Jacob, and Amelia Jacob—and the great-grandparents of six more—Alexia Zambrano, Jerika Hamblin, Alex Zambrano, Arianna Zambrano, Sydney Hamblin, and Josh Zambrano.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the Jacob family has been very blessed over the course of the last 50 years. As my friends Harland and Ruth celebrate this wonderful occasion, I want to wish them congratulations and continued happiness on behalf of their many friends, family, and neighbors. Ruth and Harland, we are all very proud of you!

HALT PHARMACEUTICAL LOBBYING TO PHYSICIANS TO INCREASE R&D

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD several examples of unsolicited drug company “freebies” a Florida physician received in just one week. Over the years, I have received numerous examples of doctors being given free meals, cocktails, travel subsidies and recreational events—all financed by pharmaceutical companies. Drug companies spend billions a year promoting their products to physicians through these very questionable tactics instead of using this money for life-saving research and development.

Last January, the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) found that more than \$11 billion is spent each year by drug companies promoting and marketing their products—with about \$8,000 to \$13,000 spent per year on each physician. JAMA concluded that present physician-industry interactions adversely affects prescribing and professional behavior.

Additionally, a March USA Today article described a growing trend among pharmaceutically-financed advertising and marketing firms to sponsor physician continuing medical education (CME) courses that doctors in 34 states need to keep their licenses. These marketing firms are paid by drug companies that often hire faculty to teach these courses to push their sponsors' products.

Such evidence of pharmaceutical waste, the adverse impact of drug company gifts on prescribing practices and the need for increased pharmaceutical R&D led me to introduce H.R. 4089, the Save Money for Prescription Drug Research Act of 2000. My bill would deny tax deductions to drug companies for certain gifts and benefits provided to physicians (other than product samples) and instead encourage drug companies to use those funds for a much more important use—pharmaceutical research and development.

Research and development is much more important than drug company promotions. Our nation has reaped great rewards as a result of pharmaceutical research. Pharmaceutical and biotech research have led to the discovery of lifesaving cures and treatments for ailments that would have cut lives short in earlier years. But drug companies can do more. Think of all the additional lives that could be saved if the pharmaceutical industry dedicated the resources now spent on physician promotions to R&D.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a responsibility to put an end to this pharmaceutical “giftgiving” and to encourage research and development of life-saving drugs. The drug industry's lobbying of physicians, which clearly leads to distorted, inappropriate, overprescribing of drugs, must be brought to an end.

HONORING MRS. HAZEL PAHLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I want to ask that we all pause for a moment to remember a woman who we have lost, Hazel Pahler. Though she is gone, she will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Mrs. Pahler was a first lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps. She was laid to rest with full military honors, in Grand Junction, Colorado after her battle with cancer. Mrs. Pahler was a nurse who witnessed the horrors of war. She was dedicated to her profession and was able to endure all the hardships of war while remaining focused on the welfare of the soldiers.

As a result of her untiring efforts, Mrs. Pahler earned many awards. She has been honored with the European, African and Middle Eastern medals, the American Defense Medal, the Red Cross Service Pin, the World War II Victory Medal and three Overseas Service Bars. She is a remarkable person that devoted her life to the service of others.

Hazel Pahler is someone who will be missed by many. Her friends and family will miss the woman that they all enjoyed spending time with. The rest of us will miss this woman who exemplified the selflessness that so few truly possess. But, when we lose a woman such as Mrs. Pahler, being missed is certainly no precursor to being forgotten. And everyone who ever knew her will walk through life a bit differently for it.

TRIBUTE TO THE CONSUMER LEAGUE OF NEW JERSEY

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a remarkable organization, the Consumers League of New Jersey (CLNJ), which was recognized on Tuesday, May 16, 2000 because of its many years of service and leadership at a dinner celebration in West Orange, New Jersey. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the

group, so it is only fitting that these words are immortalized in the annals of this greatest of all freely elected bodies.

Since 1900, the Consumers League has fought for the rights of consumers. Congress used ideas from CLNJ testimony in the U.S. Home Equity Loan Consumer Protection Act, to prohibit “rate rise surprise.” Congress also adopted a CLNJ measure to help save homes from foreclosure, by giving homeowners a chance to pay their mortgages through bankruptcy payment plans. The league helps people shop for credit with a pamphlet on low-cost credit cards. Consumers League also helps low income consumers with its “rent to own” campaign.

Consumers League of New Jersey is non-partisan. CLNJ does not make endorsements nor does it contribute money to candidates. They give people an honest opinion, and try to persuade elected officials to help consumers.

In the early 1900s children worked in factories, and many of the protections of modern life which we take for granted were non-existent. Consumers League struggled for 35 years before its original agenda of safe food, safe working conditions, prohibitions on child labor, promotion of minimum wages laws and union protections, was enacted into law as the New Deal.

CLNJ has always been ahead of the country in its vision of justice. It was not until the New Deal that many of the reforms championed by CLNJ became law. CLNJ was a founding member of the National Consumers League (NCL), and worked with NCL and unions to bring about change. CLNJ also took up the cause of the “watch-dial” radium poisoning of female workers in Essex County, New Jersey.

In the 1960s and 1970s, CLNJ leaders spoke out for consumer protection laws, credit laws, usury limits, and enforcement of minimum wage and child labor laws. They looked into supermarket prices. They also went to the fields to support migrant farm-workers. Rutgers University of New Jersey has considerable archives about the early and middle years of CLNJ history.

From 1985 onward CLNJ has fought for consumer rights and basic justice. For fifteen years they promoted lower interest rates by publicizing lower interest credit cards. They gave away tens of thousands of credit card pamphlets. CLNJ also lamented bank mergers, which resulted in fewer choices, higher prices for consumers and interest rates that never went down. In addition, CLNJ supported the Fair Lending Coalition. They also helped enact New Jersey's Basic Banking law.

From 1986–89, CLNJ's President was a member of the Federal Reserve Board's Consumer Advisory Council. The president opposed “checkhold” delays. The common ground discovered between CL and bankers proved to be the formula which Congress enacted into law: the Federal Reserve must process checks quicker, and banks must end the long holds. In addition, the president supported Truth in Savings, which was also enacted.

CLNJ fought against weakening New Jersey's Secondary Mortgage Loan Act. When the Legislature legalized abuses, less than one year later, CLNJ testified before the United States Senate in 1987 about home equity loans, or as CLNJ put it “charge a blouse, put a lien on your house.” Congress banned what New Jersey had approved: the “rate rise